BOARD OF TRUSTEES

GCCC is governed by an elected board of six Finney County citizens, with board members serving as representatives of the Finney County taxpayers. The board uses a system of policy-based governance and delegates administrative leadership to the president, Dr. Herbert J. Swender.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a great year we have had at Garden City Community College. I want to thank everyone for their continued support as we “Bust into the Future!” It truly has been a year of incredible growth and change on our campus. GCCC is committed to keeping the proud traditions of the past, but at the same time, we are moving forward to serve the ever changing needs of the students and our community.

We asked some of our employees to come up with slogans to describe the future of the college, and one of my favorites was “Building the future, while making history.” We truly have made some historical changes this last year. On March 11, 2015, on the floor of the Kansas Senate and House of Representatives Chamber, GCCC was officially recognized for being selected by the Rural Community College Alliance (RCCA) as College of the Year for 2016. GCCC was named to Aspen Institute’s top 10% of community colleges, GCCC was ranked #31 in the list of top community colleges in the nation, and CNN Money ranked GCCC among the top 24 community colleges in the nation. We were named “Military Friendly in 2015,” which marks five years in a row to be honored with this designation. These are just a few of the accolades that reinforce our commitment to excellence in education.

The mission of the college states, GCCC exists to produce positive contributors to the economic and social well-being of society. On Tuesday, November 10th, 2015, the GCCC Welding Center and new Broncbuster Housing were dedicated in a ribbon cutting ceremony. This ceremony underscores the commitment of Garden City Community College, local government, and community organizations to work together to train and develop the workforce and to identify labor needs.

With success comes growth, and in 2015 the GCCC campus saw numerous updates. GCCC has new Broncbuster Housing, a state-of-the-art welding facility, a new Broncbuster Bookstore, a new library parking lot, and renovations in the DPAC lobby complete with a new floor to ceiling mural featuring the history of GCCC student-athlete success. Together, we truly are “Building a future, while making history!”

Dr. Herbert J. Swender
GCCC President

PRESIDENT’S CABINET

1. Dr. Herbert J. Swender, President
2. Dee Wigner, Executive Vice President
3. Ryan Ruda, Vice President for Instruction and Student Services
4. Jerrad Webb, Director of Workforce Development
2015 HIGHLIGHTS

Accolades

- Named to Aspen Institute’s top 10% of community colleges in America for 2015. This marks the third consecutive year for this designation.
- Ranked #31 in the list of the top community colleges in the nation by “The 50 Best Community Colleges”.
- CNN Money ranked GCCC among the top 24 community colleges in the nation.
- Military Advanced Education named GCCC “Military Friendly” for the fourth year in a row.
- GCCC is included in the 50 most affordable community colleges in America.
- GCCC was ranked #13 by affordablecolleges.com

Four-Year College Articulation Agreements Added in 2015

- GCCC and Kansas Wesleyan signed a new articulation agreement for Reverse Transfer.
- GCCC and Friends University signed a new articulation agreement for accounting.
- GCCC and Ottawa University signed a General Transfer Agreement.

Enrollment

Garden City Community College opened its fall 2015 semester with more than 2,000 students filling chairs, hallways, classrooms, and sidewalks across campus. Of those students, 1,724 were Kansas In-State Students. A total of 2,164 students were enrolled in 23,064 hours, according to a report issued by Registrar Nancy Unruh in the fall of 2015. The report showed the full-time equivalency count for fall was 1,537.

GCCC Honored as College of the Year by RCCA in Washington D.C. & on the Floor of the Kansas Senate and House of Representatives Chamber in Topeka, Kansas

GCCC was proud to be honored as Rural Community College of the Year by the Rural Community College Alliance (RCCA) for 2014. GCCC received the award at a ceremony in Washington D.C. on February 11, 2015, in the rotunda of the United States Agricultural Department building. This award was given in order to honor GCCC for its initiative in launching the studies that the Education Policy Center (EPC) of the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa conducted on Pell Grant enrollment in rural community colleges.

In Washington D.C., Dr. Herbert Swender, President of GCCC, was presented the award by United States Senator Pat Roberts and Congressman Tim Huelskamp. Both Senator Roberts and Representative Huelskamp spoke about the pride they have in GCCC and the accomplishments of the school.

GCCC was honored on the floor of the Kansas Senate and House of Representatives in recognition of the Rural Community College of the Year award on March 11, 2015.
HIGHLIGHTS

Campus Police - GCCC Campus Safety Training

Rodney Dozier, Campus Police Chief, implemented a new safety program on the Garden City Community College Campus. The program is called the ALICE program, and stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. The program is designed to enhance safety, and to reduce the overall effects of disasters and campus attacks.

In March, 2019, GCCC had a newly established tornado siren linked with the City of Garden City system. Campus police personnel attended Storm Spotter Training, which was sponsored by Finney County Emergency Management. Additionally, college storm shelter information was updated, to include Broncbuster Housing.

Grants Received Summer 2015

Garden City Community College received word from the US Department of Education that GCCC was awarded the TRIO Student Support Services Program grant for five years. The grant award is $275,282 for each five years of the grant. Garden City Community College has been the host institution for the TRIO/Student Support Services program since 1993. The program currently serves 200 students. GCCC is also the host site for the TRIO/Educational Talent Search program which serves 6th grade through adults who are interested in attending college.

In the summer of 2015, Director of Workforce, Jerrad Webb, oversaw a workforce training program. Individuals in the program were selected by the KansasWorks center for specialized training in the area of Industrial Maintenance. The training was funded by a grant from the Department of Commerce in relation with Tatro Plumbing and Naab Electric. The intent of the program was to develop skills in the individuals selected to be trained to directly enter the workforce. Six students were instructed at GCCC in the areas of welding, electricity, business management, and other NCCER standards. The six students were honored in a ceremony on August 5th, and received certificates for completion of the program. Each student completing the program was interviewed on the GCCC campus by employees from Tatro Plumbing, and Naab Electric, for possible positions in their company.

Broncbusters Get A New Ride

Garden City Broncbusters are rolling out in style with a new bus. The new bus is a 2011 MCI J-Series Motor Coach that seats 56 people, and has a six screen video system.

GCCC Welding Center and Broncbuster Housing Dedicated November 10, 2015

A celebration for Broncbuster Housing, and the GCCC Welding Technology Center, Tuesday, November 10th was highlighted by a visit from the Honorable Sam Brownback, Governor of Kansas.
HIGHLIGHTS

Student Highlights

This year saw a number of Garden City Community College students take their time in the spotlight for their hard work and accomplishments in a variety of areas. Here are just a few of some of the great accomplishments achieved throughout the year.

- In April students on campus started a campaign with Numana, Inc. to help raise money for hunger awareness. The students organized various activities on campus, including a “Souperbowl” luncheon to raise money for the cause. On April 23rd students showed up in the gym to package 30,000 total meals. In all GCCC raised $6,000.00 for the campaign.

- The GCCC GC-3 Media team earned a variety of awards for their efforts, individually and as a group. In an on-site copy/editing contest GC3 swept the two year newspaper category. The Silhouette also won 3rd best newspaper in the nation against 4 year colleges.

- GCCC received a 1.9 million dollar TAACCT Grant for the Welding Lab

- Former President, George W. Bush, visited Garden City for a private luncheon on April 28th. Twelve GCCC students were chosen for a private Question & Answer session with Bush. Students who were selected to attend the event represented a cross-section of the college.

- The Garden City Community College John Deere program recently received the “John Deere College of Tomorrow – Bronze Level Award” at the John Deere instructor training in Wichita, November, 2015.

- The GCCC meats judging team won the 2015 National Championship in Friona, Texas on November 1st. The team put up the 2nd highest overall team score in the 30 year history of the GCCC Meat judging program. The GCCC meats team makes history as the first community college team to be invited to a world competition. The team will compete in Wagga Wagga, Australia in July of 2016.

- Six GCCC students were selected as 2015 Outstanding Students of the Year, Maggie McCombs, Lakin, Kansas, Austin Swender, Garden City, Brett Cady, Garden City, Kate Inchun, Fabiola Sierra, Johnson, Kansas, and Noelle Doty, Fort Collins, CO. Students were nominated based upon two criteria; having a 3.0 GPA or higher and being a graduate candidate. The students were selected through a vote by college faculty and staff. Receiving outstanding students of the year were Brett Cady and Maggie McCombs.

- Dr. Herbert Swender was proud to have GCCC chosen as one of the featured college’s in the Obama administration’s Community College American Graduation Initiative.
HIGHLIGHTS

Fine Arts

- Garden City Community College Players presented a production of “Fiddler on the Roof” at the Pauline Joyce Fine Arts Center, November 5-7, and November 12-14, with special Sunday performances on November 8th, and November 15th.

- There is a new rock band at GCCC called Minor 6. Minor 6 debuted this last fall at the Fine Arts Day at GCCC. The band also appeared at the Guitar and Rock Ensemble in December.

- Garden City Community College Department of Music along with the GCCC Concert Choir, College Singers, and the Garden City Civic Choral Union, presented the annual Christmas Vespers Concert featuring holiday favorites, including “Bethlehem Joy” by Stan Pethel.

Celebrations at GCCC

- GCCC celebrated an observance of the 14th Anniversary of September 11, 2001. Community, students, and staff, were invited to a special ceremony honoring the anniversary of the attacks at the World Trade Center. The memorial observance was a tribute led by students, college officials, and community leaders.

- In honor of the Marine Corps birthday, the Marine Corps of Western Kansas hosted former Army Ranger Kris “Tonto” Paronto to speak at Garden City Community College on Tuesday, November 10, at the Dennis Perryman Athletic Complex. Paronto is a former Army Ranger from the 2nd Battalion 75th Ranger Regiment and a private security contractor. Paronto was part of the CIA annex security team that responded to the terrorist attack on the US Special Mission in Benghazi, Libya, September 11th, 2012, helping to save over 20 lives while fighting off terrorists from the CIA annex for over 13 hours. The story is told in the book “13 Hours” written by Mitchell Zuckoff and his five surviving annex security team members.
HIGHLIGHTS

Community Service

• Thirteen members of the Region VI Champion cheer squad and Broncbuster Billy all joined the festivities at this year’s Beef Empire Days Parade held Saturday, June 13th.

• GCCC hosted the class 1A Regional Track meet on May 18. GCCC welcomed 23 area schools and over 250 people attended the meet.

• Syracuse High School used the Multi-Sport Athletic Complex for four of their home football games.

• On Saturday, August 24, area kids were able to take the field at GCCC's Multi-Sport Complex, and see what it was like to be a “Buster”. Garden City Community College football team celebrated over two decades of “Buddy Day”.

• GCCC held a “PINKOUT” night at Broncbuster Stadium for the home football game against Hutchinson Community College. The GCCC Athletic Trainers raised $3,000.00 to donate to the Breast Cancer Center at St. Catherine Hospital.

• On Wednesday, December 2nd, the GCCC Kansas Collegiate Farm Bureau chapter, and the GCCC Block and Bridle Club held a Fill a Ford with Toys in the parking lot of the John Collins Vocational Building. The new unwrapped toys were delivered to children in need during the holidays.
Men's soccer returned to Garden City Community College in 2015. The team had a great run and moved into the NJCAA rankings during the season, ranking as high as 16th in the nation. GCCC hosted the first round of the region VI tournament.

With almost an entire new team of one sophomore and 12 freshmen, under the direction of new Head Coach John Green the Buster Golfers have set new records with a school record 14th in the nation ranking (Golfstat Poll) and 16th in the nation ranking (NJCAA Poll). Four of the GCCC Golfers are ranked in the Top 100 golfers in the nation according to Golfstat. Taylor Linenberger, a Garden City native, was named to the All-KJCCC second team for volleyball.

GCCC Defensive Lineman Jeremy Faulk was named National Junior College 1st Team All-American. Jeremy Faulk was also named All-KJCCC Co-Defensive player of the year.

The women's soccer team had four players garner all-KJCAA awards.

Garden City Community College was represented on both the men's and women's side at the 2015 NJCAA Championships, with seven men and four women competing.

GCCC head softball coach, Becky Gundy, was named the 2015 Region VI Softball coach of the year. The GCCC softball team was the Region VI, Division I runner up.

The Garden City Cheer squad nabbed a first place finish in the Region VI Cheer and Dance Conference championship at Allen County Community College in Iola, Kansas on March 8th, 2015. The GCCC cheer squad took first place overall at another competition to earn the Silver Bid to Nationals in Daytona, Florida, in April of 2016.
ENDOWMENT

The GCCC Endowment Association Annual Auction was held Friday, April 10th at the Finney County Exhibition Building where attendees enjoyed an island theme and a delicious dinner provided by Great Western Dining and prepared by Buster Red Meats. Over 900 attended the event. The event raised $178,830.00 for the GCCC endowment.

GCCC Endowment received a Council on Resource Development award for the Mary Jo Williams Charitable Trust Endowment Scholarship. The CRD Benefactor award recognizes individuals, foundations, or businesses for outstanding contributions to community colleges. The Mary Jo Williams Charitable trust has provided $1,207,072.73 in grant and scholarship support since December of 1988.

The GCCC Community College Endowment Association held their sixth annual celebration Tuesday, September 19th, in the practice gym of the Dennis Perryman Athletic Complex. The celebration was to honor the generosity of GCCC supporters, and to recognize the recipients of the Outstanding Service Award. Outstanding service awards were given to Ed and Roselyn Nicklaus, and Tyson Fresh meats.

Three GCCC students were honored Tuesday, August 26th, at Garden City Community College as recipients of the Otis and Mary Lee Molz Cooperative Scholarship. The reception was hosted by the GCCC Endowment Association and Garden City Coop in the Board Room at GCCC. The Otis and Mary Lee Molz Cooperative Scholarship was established last year with a generous gift from Otis and Mary Lee Molz to the GCCC Endowment Association. Three GCCC students who received the scholarship were honored. Kourtney Goss, and Megan Sloan from Garden City, and Courtney Nemecheck from Holcomb were recipients.

In 2015, the GCCC endowment awarded or administered $600,550 in scholarships to GCCC Students and $113,591 in grants for equipment and educational materials. Of the scholarship amounts, $301,197 were from existing scholarship funds and the remainder were from the outside scholarships that the Endowment Association administers at no charge to the students (most schools charge a fee). The grant amount includes $7,500 awarded in mini-grants, $10,000 from the Finnup Foundation for the Culinary Program, and $71,898.93 from the Mary Jo Williams Charitable Trust for new furniture for the MJW CLC, restocking a chemistry and physics lab, manicure and pedicure chairs for the Cosmo program, and a five-year subscription to a 20,000+ title educational movie library for the nursing program.
POINTS OF PRIDE …

GCCC President, Dr. Herbert Swender Moderates “A Conversation with Former President George W. Bush”

Topics ranging from current presidential foreign policy to matters relating to Barneby the presidential pooch, were discussed as GCCC President Dr. Herbert Swender directed a conversation with former President George W. Bush, in front of a crowd of nearly 300 community members at an invitation-only luncheon hosted by local businessman Cecil O’Brate and his wife Frances on April 28. The hour long discussion gave the audience a glimpse into the life of the 43rd President of the United States and a lifetime memory for all in attendance. The event showcased the excellence of Garden City and Garden City Community College to community members and the former president.

Supreme Court Justices Visit GCCC

Two Kansas Supreme Court Justices stopped by GCCC on Tuesday, October 13th, to visit with students, faculty, and staff. The Kansas Supreme Court was in Garden City to hear three cases in a special session at Garden City High School as part of its ongoing outreach to familiarize Kansas with the high court, its work, and the overall role of the Kansas judiciary. It was the Kansas Supreme Court’s first visit to Garden City in its 156-year history, and it was only the second time for the court to hear cases in the evening. GCCC was honored to have an afternoon visit by two of the Justices before they convened at Garden City High School. Court Justices Dan Biles, and Eric Rosen addressed a crowd of over 200 in the Pauline Joyce Fine Arts Auditorium.

95th Annual Commencement

The 95th annual commencement ceremony for GCCC was held on May 8, 2015. The ceremony honored 400 graduates who received their associates degrees or technical certifications. The commencement speaker was Mark Headley, a Global Real Estate and Facilities Services Manager for Conoco Phillips. Headley has over 30 years of experience in corporate real estate including real estate acquisition and disposition, facilities operation and maintenance, and real estate project management. Headley’s speech highlighted the theme that a community college education is an excellent way to start a student’s journey to success. He took a moment to honor the students’ families who helped facilitate the students’ successes at GCCC by having graduates stand up and acknowledge their families sitting in the stands.

Highlights of the GCCC 2015 commencement included honoring Dennis Mesa as Distinguished Alumni of 2014, recognizing and awarding graduates Brett Cady of Garden City, and Maggie McCombs as GCCC Outstanding Students of the Year. Kiara Sharp who received her associate’s degree from GCCC in the same week she received her high school diploma from Healy High School, was also honored.
GCCC also receives extensive federal grant funding not necessarily reflected in the overall educational fund expenditures.

**Annual grant funding**

$7,571,266

Based on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards in the college's annual audit report, presented to the GCCC Board of Trustees in December, 2015 for the year ended June 30, 2015.
BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Just in time for the start of the Spring Semester, the long awaited Broncbuster housing opened on January 10th amid a flurry of last minute preparations. With enrollment higher than ever before this was a much needed addition to enhance housing choices for GCCC students. Fifty-six students moved into the units which are comprised of four rooms with two students and two bathrooms. The units have wireless internet and cable, a laundry room which serves as a storm shelter for all residents, locked storage facilities, and kitchenettes. The units are fully furnished with a sofa, dining room, love seat, stackable beds, and dressers.

The 2015 summer saw major improvements to buildings and parking lots at Garden City Community College. Several buildings were updated to make better use of space, and remodels brought the campus up to current code.

The Broncbuster Bookstore moved from the basement of the Beth Tedrow Student Center to what used to be the College Endowment room. The storefront offers a contemporary, sleek design, and the upgrades have made the bookstore look like one you find at any major university. Next to the bookstore is a new cyber café and coffee bar. Outside of the storefront is a newly renovated student lounge area complete with a gas fireplace and TV. The old bookstore location in the basement of the Beth Tedrow Student Center has become the new activities center for students.

The old Student Government Association office merged into the conference room next door and became an additional large meeting room to be utilized on campus. All restrooms were remodeled to become ADA compliant, and the cafeteria has a new entrance.

At the Dennis Perryman Athletic Center, the lobby area received a complete remodel. The tile and display cases were all revamped. The gym has new entrance doors, and the restrooms were updated and redone to become ADA compliant. A brightly colored mural featuring the history of GCCC student-athlete success now greets visitors as they enter the lobby. The mural depicts the athletic accomplishments of student-athletes who have started at Garden City Community College, and then moved on to have stellar athletic careers at four year universities and beyond. Among those depicted on the 27' x 5' mural, are Dayton Moore, now the General Manager of the 2015 World Series Champions, Kansas City Royals.

GCC has a new welding center just south of campus on Spruce Street. GCCC is quickly making forward strides in the welding program which received a $1,975,493.00 grant. The plan is to expand the program from 22 to 48 students, and to add 8 week and 14 week sessions. Funding for this expansion was provided by the U.S. Department of Labor via a consortia grant from Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant.

ADA/EQUAL ACCESS
Garden City Community College is complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and is committed to equal and reasonable access to facilities and programs for all employees, students and visitors. Those with ADA concerns, or who need special accommodations, should contact Susan Polisky, Garden City Community College, 801 Campus Drive, Garden City, KS 67846, 620-276-7611.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/TITLE IX - NON-DISCRIMINATION/ANTI-HARASSMENT
Garden City Community College does not discriminate against applicants, employees, or students on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex (including pregnancy), age (40 or older), disability, height, weight, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information or other non-merit reasons, or handicap, nor will sexual harassment or retaliation be tolerated. In its employment practices and/or educational programs or activities, harassment is prohibited based on race, color, age, sex, religion, marital status, national origin, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or other factors which cannot be lawfully considered, to the extent specified by applicable federal and state laws. Vice President of Student Services coordinates the college’s efforts to comply with Title IX. Students concerned about the above should contact Ryan Rufo, Vice President of Student Services, 620-276-5997; Student and Community Services Center, 801 Campus Dr, Garden City, KS 67846, and employees with concerns may contact Sara Kottner, Director of Human Resources, 620-276-9374. Student and Community Services Center, 801 Campus Dr, Garden City, KS 67846.